

IN THE MATTER OF:	:
	:
J&M, LLC	:
t/a Hammer & Nails-Dupont:	:
2147 P Street NW	: Fact Finding
Retailer CT - ANC 2B	: Hearing
License No. 112033	:
	:
(Request to Extend	:
Safekeeping)	:

Wednesday
October 25, 2023

The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board met via WebEx videoconference, Chairperson Donovan W. Anderson presiding.

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
BOBBY CATO, JR., Member
EDWARD S. GRANDIS, Member
JENI HANSEN, Member
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member

JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff
MELISSA KINGSTON, Licensee
RICHARD BIANCO, Licensee Counsel

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 2:20 p.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: The next case on
4 our calendar is another fact-finding hearing for
5 Hammer & Nails-Dupont, License No. 112033.

6 Mr. Orellana, can you please elevate
7 the rights of the licensee in this case.

8 MR. ORELLANA: Melissa Kingston, your
9 access has been elevated. Richard Bianco, your
10 access has been elevated.

11 That is all, Chairman.

12 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: Mr. Bianco, can
13 you please identify yourself for the record by
14 spelling and stating your name.

15 MR. BIANCO: Sure thing, Mr. Chair.
16 Richard Bianco, R-I-C-H-A-R-D B-I-A-N-C-O. I am
17 counsel for the Applicant in this case, or the
18 licensee. I'm sorry.

19 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: And I see there
20 is a Melissa Kingston.

21 Ms. Kingston, can you identify
22 yourself for the record by spelling and stating
23 your name.

24 MS. KINGSTON: Hi. Melissa Kingston,
25 M-E-L-I-S-S-A, last name K-I-N-G-S-T-O-N.

1 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: And do you have
2 a camera you can turn on, ma'am?

3 MS. KINGSTON: Just a second. I'm
4 sorry.

5 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: All right. This
6 is a request for safekeeping of the license.

7 Mr. Bianco, can you tell us -- start
8 off by -- as you know, it's a fact-finding
9 hearing. The Board is just trying to gather some
10 information. A request has been made to grant --
11 to keep the license in safekeeping until March
12 31, 2024. Can you tell us where we are? How did
13 we get to -- how did she get to this stage and
14 what has been requested?

15 Ms. Kingston, I cannot see your
16 camera. I'm not sure if Mr. Orellana needs to --
17 if there is anything that the Agency needs to do
18 on its part for you to be on camera.

19 MS. KINGSTON: It's not letting me.

20 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: That's fine,
21 ma'am.

22 Go ahead, Mr. Bianco.

23 MR. BIANCO: Sure thing Commissioner
24 Chair. So this license has recently acquired
25 this license. I understand from the licensing

1 division that it has been in safekeeping for some
2 time.

3 I have a little bit of context on
4 that. The building was essentially completed
5 rebuilt and upon completion of the structure, the
6 owner of the property sought to lease it. My
7 client, who was represented by a broker, found
8 the property and determined it was appropriate
9 for her needs, entered into a lease sometime over
10 the summer.

11 We finalized everything with the
12 lease, submitted a transfer application and my
13 client is now the license holder. As far as why
14 we're not operational yet, the property was
15 delivered in shell condition per the lease and
16 she has been pursuing permitting.

17 She submitted four permits four weeks
18 ago. She's expecting permitting to be completed
19 by the end of November. Build-out will begin at
20 that point. We expect to be -- we have a
21 projected opening date in March of 2024.

22 Of course, the construction industry
23 being what it is, that may be ambitious but that
24 is definitely what we're shooting for. We hope
25 to have it done before the time where we would

1 have to come back and explain why we're not quite
2 there yet. Fingers crossed but that's exactly
3 where we are as of today.

4 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: Thank you.

5 Any questions by any Board members?

6 Any other representation you wish to
7 make, Mr. Bianco?

8 MR. BIANCO: No, Mr. Chair. That's
9 it.

10 CHAIRPERSON DONOVAN: All right.

11 Thank you. The Board will take this matter under
12 advisement and we will issue a determination of
13 whether or not we will grant the extension
14 through March 31, 2024. Thank you very much.
15 Have a great afternoon.

16 MR. BIANCO: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and
17 members of the Board.

18 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went
19 off the record at 11:08 a.m.)
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A a.m 5:19 ABCA 1:20 above-entitled 5:18 access 2:9,10 acquired 3:24 advisement 5:12 afternoon 5:15 Agency 3:17 ago 4:18 ahead 3:22 Alcoholic 1:2,13 ambitious 4:23 ANC 1:7 Anderson 1:14,16 Applicant 2:17 application 4:12 appropriate 4:8	D date 4:21 DC 1:20 definitely 4:24 delivered 4:15 determination 5:12 determined 4:8 DISTRICT 1:1 division 4:1 Donovan 1:14,16 2:3 2:12,19 3:1,5,20 5:4 5:10	J J&M 1:6 JAMES 1:18 JENI 1:18 JOSE 1:20 JR 1:17,18	permitting 4:16,18 please 2:6,13 point 4:20 PRESENT 1:15,19 presiding 1:14 projected 4:21 property 4:6,8,14 pursuing 4:16
B B-I-A-N-C-O 2:16 back 5:1 Beverage 1:2,13 Bianco 1:21 2:9,12,15 2:16 3:7,22,23 5:7,8 5:16 bit 4:3 Board 1:2,13 3:9 5:5,11 5:17 BOBBY 1:17 broker 4:7 Build-out 4:19 building 4:4	E EDWARD 1:17 elevate 2:6 elevated 2:9,10 entered 4:9 essentially 4:4 exactly 5:2 expect 4:20 expecting 4:18 explain 5:1 Extend 1:9 extension 5:13	K K-I-N-G-S-T-O-N 2:25 keep 3:11 Kingston 1:21 2:8,20 2:21,24,24 3:3,15,19 know 3:8	Q questions 5:5 quite 5:1
C calendar 2:4 camera 3:2,16,18 Cannabis 1:2,13 case 2:3,7,17 CATO 1:17 Chair 2:15 3:24 5:8,16 Chairman 2:11 Chairperson 1:13,16 2:3,12,19 3:1,5,20 5:4 5:10 client 4:7,13 COLUMBIA 1:1 come 5:1 Commissioner 3:23 completed 4:4,18 completion 4:5 condition 4:15 construction 4:22 context 4:3 counsel 1:21 2:17 course 4:22 crossed 5:2 CT 1:7	F Fact 1:7 fact-finding 2:4 3:8 far 4:13 finalized 4:11 Finding 1:7 fine 3:20 Fingers 5:2 found 4:7 four 4:17,17	L lease 4:6,9,12,15 letting 3:19 license 1:8 2:5 3:6,11 3:24,25 4:13 licensee 1:21,21 2:7,18 licensing 3:25 little 4:3 LLC 1:6	R R-I-C-H-A-R-D 2:16 rebuilt 4:5 record 2:13,22 5:19 representation 5:6 represented 4:7 request 1:9 3:6,10 requested 3:14 Retailer 1:7 Richard 1:21 2:9,16 right 3:5 5:10 rights 2:7
	G gather 3:9 Go 3:22 GRANDIS 1:17 grant 3:10 5:13 great 5:15	M M-E-L-I-S-S-A 2:25 ma'am 3:2,21 March 3:11 4:21 5:14 matter 1:5 5:11,18 MEETING 1:3 Melissa 1:21 2:8,20,24 Member 1:17,17,18,18 members 5:5,17 met 1:13	S S 1:17 safekeeping 1:9 3:6,11 4:1 second 3:3 see 2:19 3:15 shell 4:15 shooting 4:24 SHORT 1:18 sorry 2:18 3:4 sought 4:6 spelling 2:14,22 Staff 1:20 stage 3:13 start 3:7 stating 2:14,22 Street 1:7 structure 4:5 submitted 4:12,17 summer 4:10 sure 2:15 3:16,23
	H Hammer 1:6 2:5 HANSEN 1:18 hearing 1:7 2:4 3:9 Hi 2:24 holder 4:13 hope 4:24	N Nails-Dupont 1:6 2:5 name 2:14,23,25 needs 3:16,17 4:9 November 4:19 NW 1:7	T t/a 1:6 take 5:11 tell 3:7,12 Thank 5:4,11,14,16 thing 2:15 3:23 time 4:2,25 today 5:3 transfer 4:12 trying 3:9
	I identify 2:13,21 industry 4:22 information 3:10 issue 5:12	O October 1:11 opening 4:21 operational 4:14 Orellana 1:20 2:6,8 3:16 owner 4:6	
		P P 1:7 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2:1 p.m 2:2 part 3:18 permits 4:17	

turn 3:2

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understand 3:25

V

videoconference 1:13

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Hammer & Nails-Dupont

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 10-25-23

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under
my direction; further, that said transcript is a
true and accurate complete record of the
proceedings.



Court Reporter

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009-7831

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